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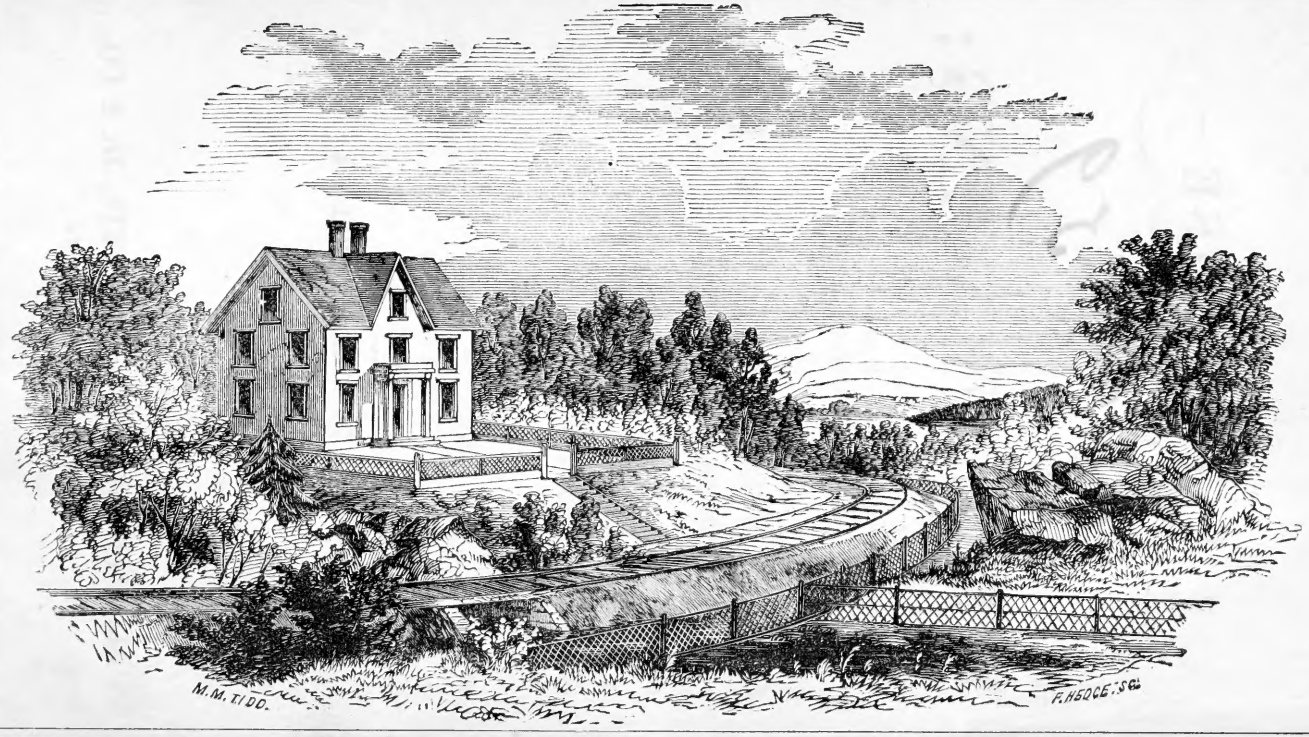
M.M. TIDD.
F. HEDGE. SC.

A TREATISE

ON

WIRE FENCING;

UNQUESTIONABLY PROVING ITS SUPERIORITY TO ANY ARTICLE HERETOFORE USED, FOR

Enclosing Railroads, Canals, Fields, Cattle Pastures, Gardens, Cemeteries, Menageries,

AND FOR

ORNAMENTAL GARDEN WORK, GRAPE AND ROSE TRELLISES,

ETC., ETC.

DEDICATED TO AGRICULTURALISTS.

195
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BOSTON:

PUBLISHED BY JAMES E. BUTTS, JR. & CO.

38 WATER STREET.

1856.

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FACTS ON

FENCES.

THE object of this pamphlet, or circular, is to call the attention of agriculturists, horticulturists, arboriculturists, railroad superintendents, keepers of agricultural warehouses, and all who are in any way interested in the subject of Fences, to the new and improved Woven Wire Fence, manufactured by Messrs. J. E. BUTTS, JR. & CO., and known as

"The Lowell Wire Fence."

Every farmer knows that this subject of Fences is one of the highest importance, and one which is becoming more and more important every year. The cost of his Fences is the most serious drawback on the usually very moderate income of the American farmer; nothing pinches so hardly his means of life and competence. If it be true, as HENRY WARD BEECHER humorously remarks, — that "the interest which a man takes in anything, is always proportioned to the amount of himself which he has put into it; and a man who has earned his living on a farm, must have put a great deal of himself into it;" — if this be true, we say every farmer must certainly feel much interested in the matter of his Fences, and in every improvement which affects them.

THE "FENCE OPPRESSION."

The amount of capital invested and expended in the construction and repair of the Fences of the United States, would be deemed fabulous, were it not for the estimates supported by statistical facts which cannot be denied. A well known agricultural writer—BURNAP—estimates that "THE FENCES OF THIS COUNTRY COST MORE THAN TWENTY TIMES THE AMOUNT OF ALL THE SPECIE THAT IS IN IT!" Another well known agricultural writer—BIDDLE—most justly observes, that "*it is this enormous burden which keeps down the agricultural interests of this country, causing an untold expenditure, besides the loss of land the Fences occupy.*" Mr. BIDDLE, indeed, made a profound and careful estimate, some years ago, that "*the Fences of the State of Pennsylvania alone, cost no less than* $100,000,000, *together with an annual expenditure, in repairs, of at least* $10,000,000!" Such being the burden imposed by the Fences of one State alone, how truly enormous must be the cost of the Fences of all the States combined!

We but quote the words of a distinguished writer thoroughly familiar with this subject, when we say that, "strange as it may seem, the greatest investment in this country, the most costly productions of human industry, are the common Fences, which divide the fields from the highways, and separate them from each other. No man dreams that when compared with the outlay for those unpretending monuments of art, our cities and our towns, with all their wealth, are left far behind." Yet such is the fact. Were there no new mode of Fence, such as this "LOWELL WIRE FENCE," whereby a large proportion of this expense may be saved, we verily believe it would be better to dispense with Fences altogether,

after the fashion in vogue on the Continent of Europe, than to endure the ruinous tax which our farmers in many regions now endure, through the present modes of Fencing. No other country — England and Holland excepted — is thus burdened. Hence there has long been great demand for some new, cheap, and substantial mode of Fence, capable of being conveniently substituted for the costly and unsubstantial styles of Fencing now in vogue.

DEFECTS OF THE PRESENT MODES OF FENCING.

The common worm Fence consumes too much timber, occupies too much land, and too soon goes to decay; the post-and-rail Fence also consumes too much timber, and too soon goes to decay, and besides this, it requires too much labor in building, and too frequent repair, to meet the wants, and to be supplied by the limited means of the farmer. As timber enhances in value, this difficulty increases. Most of our States are composed of prairie land, and are but sparsely supplied with timber of any kind. The great primeval forests of America are rapidly receding before the westward tide of civilization, like the "red children" by whom they were once inhabited. WOOD, therefore, can not be relied upon as a material for Fencing, cheap and substantial. Nor can STONE supply the place of wood. Where the material is abundant, stone walls answer the purpose very well; but there are few localities where the material abounds. Neither can quickset HEDGES be depended on. South of the latitude of Philadelphia, the *Osage Orange* has been cultivated with some success, as a hedge plant; but north of that

latitude, the frosts of Winter are too often found to be fatal to it. Hedges, however, are so long coming to maturity; they occupy so much land, require so much care, and are so subject to destruction in many ways, that, at best they furnish but a poor substitute for wood and stone, as a material for Fences.

Mr. SOLON ROBINSON, one of the editorial staff of the *New York Tribune*, has observed that, in all his travels, east, west, north, and south, he has seen "one, and only one, good hedge Fence;" and *that*, he adds, "was supported on one side by a rail Fence, and on the other by a board Fence." It has been mentioned by an intelligent English writer, that "the land consumed by hedges in England, would be sufficient to grow several millions of bushels of grain."

WIRE STRANDS have been tried for Fencing, with some success, especially in England, where iron is one-third, and labor one-half, cheaper than here. But the strands become so loose by expansion by the heat of Summer, and are so frequently snapped and broken by contraction by the cold of Winter, that, in this country, few farmers can be persuaded to adopt them at all; and those who have tried the experiment of wire strands once, have seldom been seen to repeat the experiment again. This trouble incident to the expansion and contraction of the wire strands, is so great, that Colonel CAPRON, of Laurel, Md., who is experienced in these matters, in a recently published letter, says, "that even in short lines, the wires may be so slackened, in a hot day, that a long-nosed hog may wedge his way through." In "THE LOWELL WIRE FENCE," this difficulty is completely counteracted — the peculiar mode of its texture enabling it to experience the contraction and expansion caused by the changes in the temperature of the atmosphere, without in the slightest degree impairing its efficiency as a Fence.

IRON THE TRUE MATERIAL FOR FENCES.

But although these experiments in Iron Fence, made of wire strands running from post to post, have generally proved unsatisfactory, all who have given the subject the attention it deserves, have agreed in the conclusion, that *iron wire is, after all, the true material for Fencing.* This conclusion being arrived at, *the only remaining difficulty lay in the want of suitable machinery to manufacture the wire into such a fabric as would serve as a Fence, more economically and expeditiously than it was possible to manufacture it by hand work.* Inventive genius made many attempts to produce the desired machinery, which proved failures. At length, these efforts, or one of them, were crowned with success.

In 1853, the machines now used in manufacturing the Fence, were invented and put in operation, and the long wished-for result was attained. *Letters Patent* were procured for the invention, and "THE LOWELL WIRE FENCE COMPANY" was speedily organized, for the purpose of manufacturing and introducing the new material into general use. The business flourished; the efforts of the Company's agent—Mr. CHARLES COWLEY—brought the Fence into general notice and favor; and all who tried it voted it a capital thing. Early in the Winter of 1855, the machinery of the Company was purchased by Messrs J. E. BUTTS, JR. & Co., who are the manufacturers of this admirable Fence at the present time.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WIRE FENCE.

This Fence, as will be seen by reference to the within cuts, consists of a substantial and beautiful netting or web-work, not unlike a fisherman's seine, but coarser. Different kinds of it, adapted to different uses, are woven of various widths, from a few inches to four feet. The wire itself, which is annealed, varies in size and number, — some kinds containing wire about one-third, and some only about one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter, — the number of the wire in the several kinds ranging from No. 8 to No. 15, — according to the character of the Fence desired, and the use for which it is designed. The meshes or open squares are also graduated in the several kinds, from one to six inches.

The Fence is varnished with asphaltum blacking, which protects it from oxidizing or rusting, and imparts to it a brilliant black color; but the same purposes may be served by coating it with gas tar, japanning, paint, or by galvanizing. Being too strong for an ox, and too close for a hen, it forms an impassable barrier to all farm stock. Board Fences are apt to be blown down by gales; this Fence does not catch the wind at all; and, being of iron, it cannot be injured by fire, by which wood Fences are so often destroyed. Unlike walls and hedges, it does not confine the heat, being open in its meshes, and admitting freely the genial rays of the sun, so conducive to vegetation. Neither does this Fence occupy the soil, engender weeds, nor harbor vermin, as is the case with walls and hedges. Neither does it interrupt the view of the land, nor require repair from year to year; — a re-coating of varnish once in four or five years being the only source of expense with it, after it has once been well set up. Few Fences, of the ordinary kinds, last more than

twenty years; but this is calculated to last a century or more. One of the leading agricultural periodicals of the day, says of it: — "While other Iron Fences are seriously injured by the alternate expansion and contraction, occasioned by the changes incident to the temperature of the atmosphere, this, by the novel and ingenious manner in which its wires are knit or woven together, is enabled to undergo these changes of temperature, and the expansion and contraction occasioned thereby, without the slightest deterioration or injury."

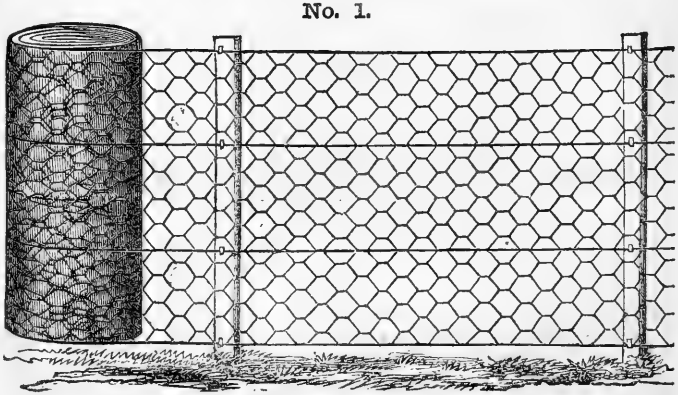
The posts to which the Fence is secured, are of wood; but they may be of iron or stone; or trees may be used in lieu of posts, where convenient. The Fence is raised from four to twelve inches from the level of the ground, and is drawn straight and moderately tight, and kept upon an exact level (or regular inclination) from one end to another. The posts are set, say ten feet apart, and to these the netting is secured by staples, (or by screws with hook-heads,) one staple being used to each lateral wire at each post; and no rails whatever are needed.

The prices of the several kinds vary, according to the height and weight of the Fence, the size of the mesh, the number and dimensions of the wire, etc. The Fence is furnished in portable rolls of from 20 to 25 rods each; and any farmer has sufficient mechanical skill to buy it, unroll it, and set it up as he pleases.

ILLUSTRATIVE

CUTS.

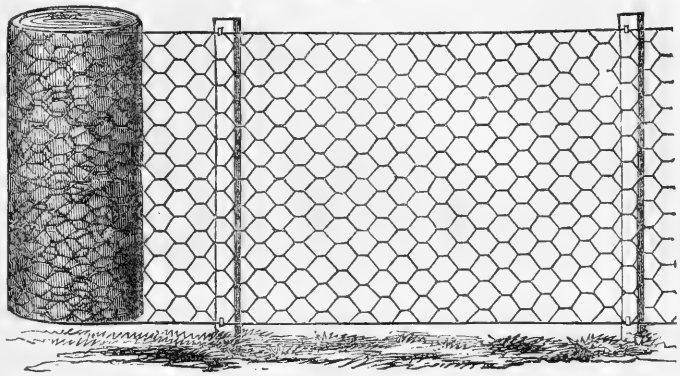
No. 1.



No. 1 is $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet high, with meshes (or open spaces) 3 inches square; 4 lateral wires of No. 10 wire, run through the body of the Fence, which is of No. 14 (or No. 15) wire. The weight is ten lbs., and the price is $2.00 per lineal rod ($16\frac{1}{2}$ feet).

This style is beautifully adapted for front, or garden Fences, where strength is required.

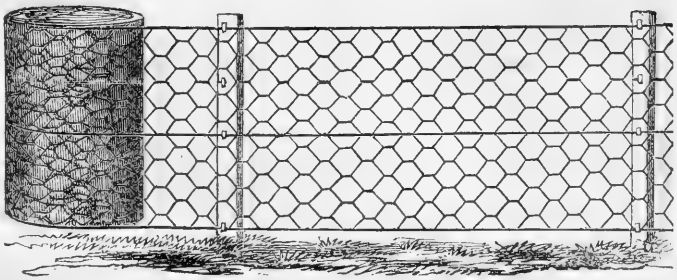
No. 2.



No. 2 is precisely like the first kind, except that there are but two lateral (or straight) wires in it — one at the top, and another at the bottom of the Fence. This weighs 9 lbs., and is $1.75 per rod.

Suitable for light garden work, Heneries, &c., and affording an admirable protection for Hedges, &c.

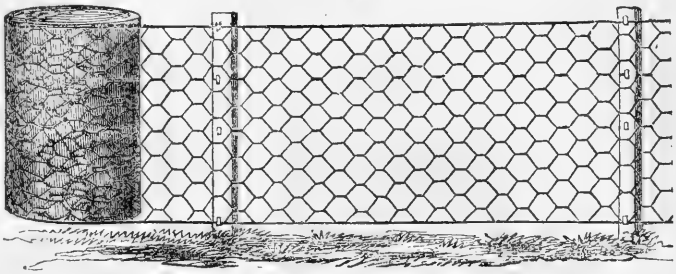
No. 3.



No. 3 is $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet high, with meshes 3 inches square; it has 3 lateral No. 10 wires, with the body work of No. 14 wire. It weighs $7\frac{1}{4}$ lbs., and is $1.50 per rod.

When finished in panels of wood or iron work, this style forms a durable and ornamental front yard Fence.

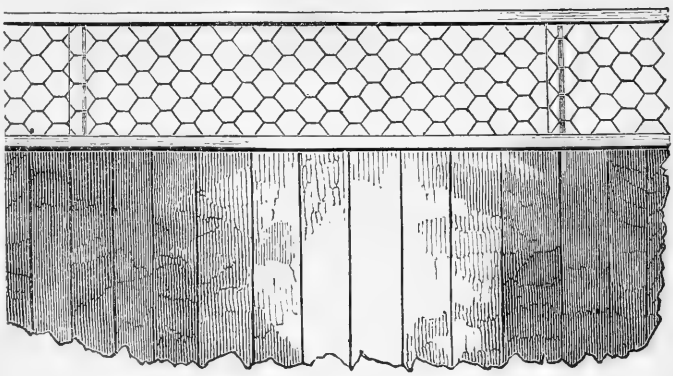
No. 4.



No. 4 is precisely like the third kind, save that the lateral wire in the middle is omitted. It weighs $6\frac{3}{4}$ lbs., and is $\$1.37\frac{1}{2}$ per rod.

Suited for the protection of low Hedges, and for wide Trellises, &c., &c.

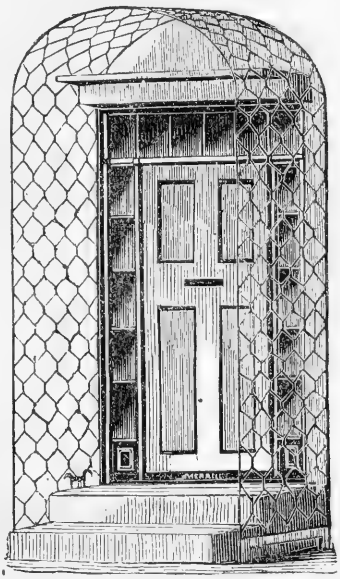
No. 5.

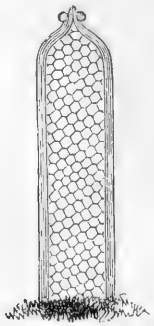


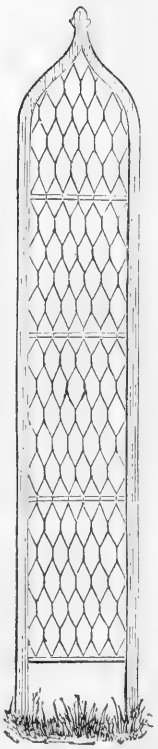
No. 5 is 16 inches high, with meshes 3 inches square; there are two lateral (outside) wires of No. 12 wire; the body is of No. 15. It weighs $4\frac{1}{4}$ lbs., and is 75 cents per rod.

It is used for ornamental garden work, and all kinds of Trellises, as well as for low Fences, Borders, and for surmounting Fences, as seen in the cut.

No. 5.

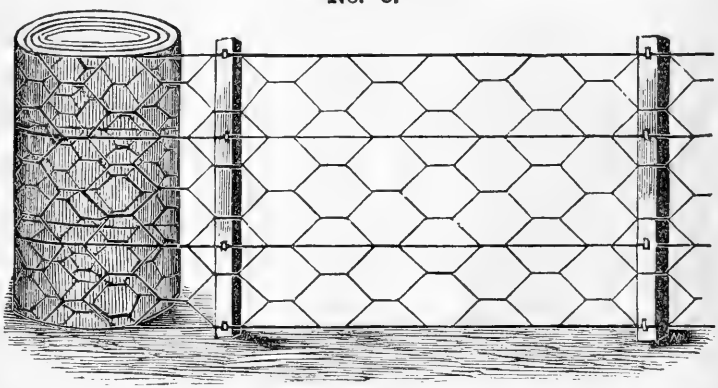






The accompanying cuts represent the same description of Fence, as applied to Rose-Trellises and Door-Arbors, &c.

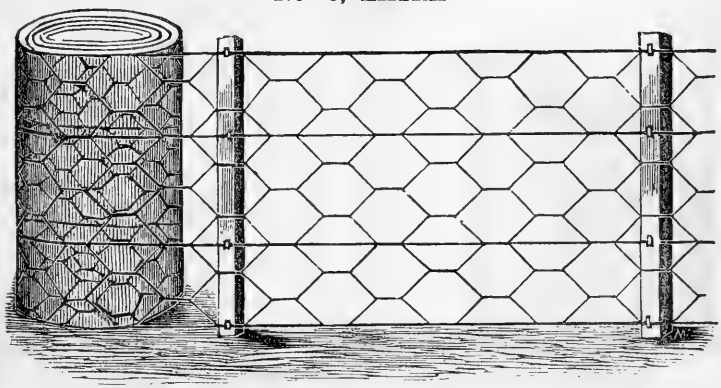
No. 6.



No. 6 is $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet high, with meshes 6 inches square; it has four lateral No. 10 wires, and the body work of No. 12 wire. It weighs 10 lbs., and is $1.25 per rod.

This kind makes the best and most practicable barrier against cattle, around Fields, along Canals, Railroads, etc. Some of the Railroad Companies have already adopted it. Indeed, it is emphatically a RAILROAD FENCE.

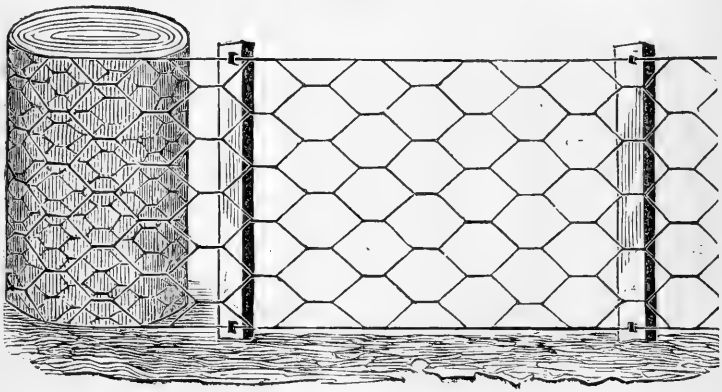
No. 6, EXTRA.



No. 6 Extra is of the same dimensions as No. 6, the wires being one number heavier throughout. It is $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet high; the lateral wires are of No. 8, and the body of No. 11 wire. It weighs 12 lbs., and is $1.50 per rod.

This style is suitable for exposed situations, Road-Fences, and wherever an unusual degree of strength is required.

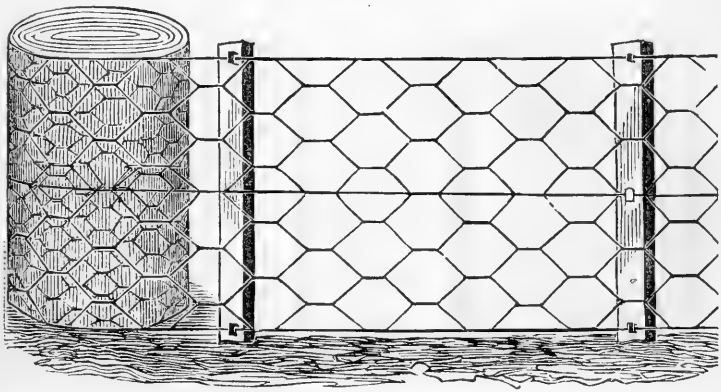
No. 7.



No. 7 is precisely like the sixth kind, except that the two middle lateral wires are omitted. It weighs 8½ lbs., and is $1.00 per rod.

It is the cheapest SHEEP FENCE that can be erected. It is admirably adapted for Trellis work, for Grape Vines and Roses, for Gardens, &c. Its strength and cheapness render it particularly suited for Division-Fences; while for Prairie lands it is at once the most economical and appropriate Fence ever devised.

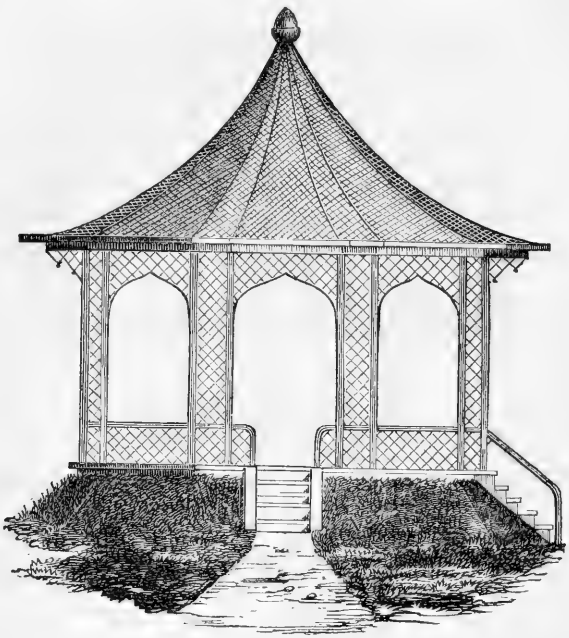
No. 8.



No. 8 is of the same size wires as Nos. 6 and 7. It has three lateral wires running through the Fence, and is $1.12 per rod.

Well adapted for Deer-Parks, Cattle Enclosures, Cemeteries, &c.

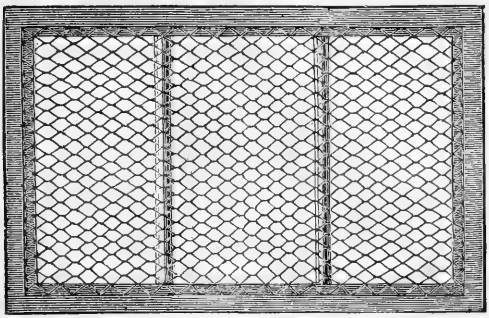
Appropriate GATES for any of the preceding styles of Fence are manufactured by us, with either Wood or Iron Frames, as may be desired.



GARDEN SUMMER HOUSES OR ARBORS.

The different sizes of woven wire can be admirably employed in the erection of Ornamental Arbors, for private gardens, or public grounds. The frame-work of light wood can be readily covered with the wire netting, as seen in the cut; the whole forming one of the cheapest, lightest and most airy styles of Summer houses ever introduced.

By a different arrangement of the wood work, the form and general appearance of these Arbors can be endlessly diversified, according to the taste or means of the proprietor.



WIRE NETTING.

In connection with the manufacture of Wire Fence, we also furnish a lighter fabric of a finer mesh, suitable for Window Guards, Gratings, Borders, light Trellises, &c. This netting, manufactured of various widths, from 13 to 28 inches, from Nos. 15, 16 or 17 wire, is also woven by machinery, and is sold at from *seven to ten cents* per square foot, being less than one half the former prices. When varnished like the fence, or coated with paint of different colors, this fabric forms a light, graceful, and at the same time adequate protection for nursery windows, the costly and ornamental windows of Churches, Stores, Conservatories, &c. It is also useful for the protection of Hot-air Flues, Drains, Skylights, Steps, and many other purposes, to which it has only to be experimentally applied to ensure entire satisfaction.

WHAT IS SAID OF

WIRE FENCES

BY THOSE WHO HAVE TRIED THEM.

SEVERAL THOUSAND LETTERS have been received by the manufacturers of the Wire Fence, from farmers and others who have practically tested it during the last two years, and who all agree, without one dissenting voice, that it is what the inventors and manufacturers claim it to be — a strong, lasting, neat and economical Fence.

We shall now proceed to give a few extracts from some of these letters, only premising that

"——what you have here is a sample of all;"

and that these samples might be extended to the extent of several volumes.

Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER, President of the United States Agricultural Society, was among the first to examine and test the merits of this mode of Fence; and in a letter to Mr. Cowley, the Agent of the Lowell Wire Fence Company, by whom this style of Fence was first introduced, he thus speaks of it: —

"DORCHESTER, *January 15th*, 1855.

"CHARLES COWLEY, Esq., Agent, &c.: —

"Dear Sir, — I have recently examined some of the netting of the Lowell Wire Fence Company, for Fences, Trellises, &c. From my own experience and that of others, I cannot doubt that it is perfectly practicable as a Fence for fields and gardens, or that it is well adapted to all uses where a strong, close, elegant, economical and durable Fence is required. Where stone is not abundant, or where lumber is expensive, as in many of our States, I should deem it the most practicable Fence that could be procured. If our Railroads are hereafter to be enclosed — as safety and economy demand — they can scarcely be fenced cheaper or better than by this mode of Fence. The stouter kinds of this netting are of such strength, that cattle could not easily penetrate or pass it; while the closeness of the lighter kinds, renders them admirably available for Garden uses, Heneries, and Poultry Fences. Fencing like this, has for some years been extensively used in Great Britain; and, since it can now be made at a much less cost, by machinery, it would seem to be equally adaptive to the United States. I know of no Fencing so good as this, that can be procured for $1.50 per rod, the highest price asked for the most costly kinds of this netting; and this is, probably, the only Fencing of equal merit that can be bought for $1.50 per rod.

"As a material for Rose-Trellises, Grape-Trellises, and ornamental work in Gardens, I think it unequalled in cheapness, durability and beauty, by anything yet devised. It will, without doubt, eventually be received into general use, when its merits are appreciated by the public.

"Yours, respectfully,

MARSHALL P. WILDER."

RICHARD S. FAY, Esq., of Lynn, says: —

"I have used the LOWELL WIRE FENCE during the past Summer, (1855,) for folding sheep at night on land that I wished to manure, shifting once or more every week, and I have found it to answer the purpose perfectly. * * * My Fence cost $1.50 per rod, and it is a cheap mode of hurdling or inclosing at that price. I understand now that it is made much cheaper."

Col. R. B. MASON, Superintendent of the Illinois Central Railroad, speaks highly of this Fence, especially as used

"in the parks and lawns and gladed surroundings of gentlemen's estates." His letter concludes: —

"However, experience in all these matters is the true touchstone of merit, and time and trial may show your Fence to be just what we want, and of great value to the country."

Mr. LOGAN SLEEPER, well known as the St. Louis agent of a Company devoted to the growth of Hedges in the West, writes as follows: —

"The cost of Fences now in all parts of the country proximate to this City, (St. Louis, Mo.,) is becoming *enormous*. There are large quantities of Plank Fence made, which cost not less than $900 per mile; and some around lots nearer to the city, which cost at a rate exceeding $1000 per mile! There is considerable stir in the country, about Hedge Fences, but it is not *general*. The *fast* people of the West want a Fence to be available quicker than a Hedge can be. And many would have a Hedge grown, if they could have a Fence to protect it that would not cost beyond all reason, and be durable and removable. I think your Fence will fill an important *desideratum*. * * * For two years I have been acquainting myself generally with the *expenses* of Fencing; and I know what the burden is."

Mr. S. NOBLE, of Dixon, Ill., writes that this Fence is "just the thing for this country. Our land is pretty much prairie, which renders Fencing material very scarce and high." Messrs. ALEXANDER, HOWELL & Co., of Dixon, also say: "we are satisfied, after having had an opportunity to examine it and test it, that it is just the kind of Fence for our prairies."

OTIS BREWER, Esq., of Boston, says: —

"I had the first that you manufactured, and have recommended it privately, and also through my journal, (the Boston *Cultivator*,) and have had many to examine it, and make inquiries in relation to it; and I believe all have been favorably impressed with regard to its utility for general use."

DWIGHT JARVIS, Esq., of Massillon, O., after an extended and highly favorable notice of this Fence, observes —

"This subject of Fencing is one of no common importance, and is daily assuming more and more of the attention of considerate men, in all parts of the country. In this part of Ohio, being the wheat growing region, timber lands are commanding almost as high prices as improved farms. The question is daily asked, What shall we do for Fencing?"

Mr. G. P. HEWITT, of Milwaukee, Wis., after commenting at some length on the scarcity and enormous cost of timber in his State, expresses his conviction that this Wire Fence "will be generally adopted in this country, where Hedges are impracticable, and where stone or even wooden Fences are so expensive."

ROBERT C. CAMBELL, Esq., a planter in the Valley of the Brazos River, Texas, writing from North Bend, says:

"I see plainly that I shall shortly have to employ something else besides rails for Fencing. This State presents a large surface of territory destitute of timber; — and hence the valuable prairie lands must prove worthless for production, unless a cheap and lasting Fencing can be used. The kind made by you will, I think, produce the desired character of enclosure."

S. M. FELTON, Esq., President of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad Company, was among the first to examine and test the practicability of this Wire Fence. The first experiment to test its utility as a RAILROAD FENCE, was made on this road, and was a perfect success.

AGENTS

For the Sale of the Wire Fence.

In many of the principal Cities of the Union, agencies have been established for the sale of this new article of merchandise; and large quantities of it have been sold. Indeed, in consequence of the limited number of machines heretofore employed in the production of the Fence, the demand for it has far exceeded the capacity of the manufacturers to supply. This want has since been removed by the construction of additional machinery. Orders for any amount, from twenty rods to as many miles, are now filled with promptness and dispatch.

WHAT THE NEWSPAPERS SAY

—OF THE—

WIRE FENCE.

THE AMERICAN PRESS, through its many-tongued organs, has been unanimous in its praises of this new mode of Fencing. The Agricultural Journals, as being the most immediately concerned in affairs of this kind, have especially commended it. Should the objection be started, that many editors sell their "puffs" for money, and that these "notices of the press" may have been purchased, our answer is this: — NOT ONE DOLLAR HAS EVER BEEN PAID TO ANY EDITOR OR PUBLISHER FOR A NOTICE OF THIS FENCE. We appeal to the whole editorial fraternity in support of this statement. These notices are the gratuitous testimonials of an enlightened and unbiased fraternity of Journalists, to an improvement which they deemed of great importance to their country.

The Plough, Loom and Anvil, in its January number, 1855, after speaking at length on the imperative demand for "some better mode of Fence than any now in vogue," and after mentioning that the conclusion was inevitable, that "*wire* would eventually be adopted as the staple material for Fences," says: —

"But the difficulty heretofore has been found in the want of a *machine* for the manufacture of Wire or other Iron into Fencing. *That machine has now*

been invented, patented, started, and the *netting* made by it successfully and extensively tried for Fencing. The Lowell Wire Fence Company are the manufacturers of this Fencing, which they claim to be, and perhaps correctly, the cheapest, considering its strength, closeness, durability, and beauty, in the world. Thus has the great necessity of American agriculture been supplied, by an invention which will, without doubt, produce, at least in some sections of country, a considerable revolution in our system of Fencing. * * * * The farmer who has not a surplus of wood or stone on his farm, can find no Fence so admirably adapted to his wants, by cheapness, strength, portability, durableness, beauty and economy, as this. By an outlay of less than a dollar and a half per rod, with a little personal labor, and a few posts, he can erect a substantial Farm-Fence, impassable to cattle, sheep, or pigs, which will survive when he is no more, to his children and his children's children."

In the February number, 1855, of the same Journal, were published cuts and full descriptions of all the kinds then made, of this Fence. In conclusion, the editors say: —

"We regard the introduction of the Fencing above-portrayed, as a blessing to all the farmers of our country. That it will, in a great measure, supersede all our present modes of Fencing, is an opinion concurred in by its inventor, by the Company organized to manufacture it, and by all, whether practical agriculturists or scientific theorists, who have tried or examined it."

The *Northern Farmer*, of Woodstock, Vt., closes an elaborate article on this Fence, as follows: —

"We regard this Fence as eminently adapted to the wants of our farmers. Its cheapness will increase the demand for it until every landscape in the Union shall be embroidered with it."

The *American Agriculturist* pronounces it an "admirable Fence," and assures its readers that it is eminently "worthy of attention."

The *Progressive Farmer* deems it a

"Highly desirable substitute for rail Fencing, being admirably adapted for enclosures of all kinds, and as no rails are required, the netting being fastened to posts of wood, iron or stone, set from ten to fifteen feet apart, it is easily put up, and is coated in various ways to beautify and preserve it.

* * * * The day has come when other material than unsightly and costly split rails must be adopted for Fencing purposes. Our forests are rapidly disappearing, and with them, the supply of Fencing materials hitherto commonly used. What is now to be done? * * * Iron has recently been adapted to so many purposes, for which wood only was formerly used, that we almost instinctively turn to it as a cheap and very fitting substitute for wood, in Fencing. Wire Fences, possessing strength, neatness, and durability, have been used. * * * A sufficient advance has now been made in this direction, to justify the hope that we shall yet have Wire Fencing, which can be profitably introduced."

The *Farm Journal*, published in Philadelphia, pronounces the Fence a first rate thing, and, as evidence of this, refers to the fact, "that considerable quantities of it have been successfully tried."

The *Northern Farmer*, published at Utica, New York, after giving illustrative cuts and descriptions of the Wire Fence, remarks: —

"The great cost of durable Fencing, to which the rural proprietors of this country have been subjected, has led to various new inventions to answer as substitutes for Rails, Boards, and Stone Walls. Nothing, however, seems to have come up, in neatness, cheapness, and durability, to the Wire Fencing."

The *Union Republican*, published at Staunton, Virginia, expresses the opinion, among other things, that "for cheapness and utility, this Fence is superior to any article heretofore used," for purposes of enclosure.

The *Richmond (Va.) Enquirer* speaks of this as "cheap and handsome;" and, the editor having successfully appropriated some of the lighter kinds for the purpose of a Garden Bower, says: —

"We can truly say, that for Grape and Rose Trellises, Garden Bowers, and such work, the woven wire answers admirably."

The *New England Farmer* has, on several occasions, favored this Fence with particular attention. Before a rod of

it had been sold or tried, this paper gave publicity to the prediction, that it would, in the end, supersede all other modes of enclosure, in many parts of the Union. In January, 1855, the same journal published cuts of the Fence, and closed its notice as follows: —

"All who have examined or tried it, attest that it possesses in the highest degree, those seven cardinal qualities in a perfect Fence or Trellis-work — strength, closeness, beauty, lightness, portability, cheapness, and durability."

The *Massachusetts Ploughman* observes: —

"That it is impossible to doubt that this invention will produce a complete change in our mode of fencing — a change greatly diminishing the cost of the Fence itself, and the labor required in its construction and application in use. We hail it as one of the most useful inventions of the age, and commend it to our readers for their adoption."

The *Massillon (O.) News*, remarks: —

"The manufacture of this Wire Fence is rapidly becoming more and more important; and the demand for it throughout the Union, especially in the West, where the scarcity of timber renders it a valuable aid to the agriculturist, is largely increasing."

The *Boston Cultivator* says: —

"We have heard it highly recommended by persons who have tried it, among whom we may mention R. S. Fay, Esq., of Lynn. * * * This mode of Fencing is fast getting into general use; and it is not improbable that it will eventually supersede Wood Fences and Stone Walls, in all those districts not containing large quantities of rock. The agricultural and scientific press have applauded it; men of theory have attested its praise; practical men have tried it, and set to it the zeal of their unanimous approbation; nor can any man question its ultimate success."

The *American Phrenologist* remarks: —

"Theoretical agriculturists have devoted much time to disputes in relation to Fences. They have tried Stone Walls, Hedges, the rickety-post-and rail Fence, 'Worm Fences,' and many kinds which now have scarcely a memory left, and none of these have been entirely successful. * * *

In view of the repeated failures of inventive genius to produce a suitable Fence for farm purposes, certain parties [the inventors of this Wire Fence] essayed to put forward a style of enclosure which, formed wholly of Iron Wire, would be made with readiness to meet at least the following requirements: 1. Lightness; 2. Strength; 3. Portability; 4. Durability. It is believed that these desiderata have been attained at the present time. Wire Fences are found to meet demands that were previously unsupplied, and in England, as in this country, their use thus far has been attended with success. We commend the invention to the notice of our readers, believing that they will find in it peculiar advantages that will repay an examination. Wire Fences possess advantages over others, in that they disfigure no landscape, obstruct no lawn; and that they enhance, rather than destroy the symmetry and beauty of ornamental grounds. Needing few or no repairs, pulling heavily upon no man's purse, and susceptible of receiving the most tasteful forms, the Wire Fence may justly be voted a good thing."

The *Chicago Democrat* thus describes this Fence: —

"It is the best possible kind of Iron Fence for the Prairies. The numerous experiments tried heretofore, sometimes with large sized wire, and at others with flat hoop-iron, running in straight lines, have not met the general acceptance of farmers. Fencing, everywhere, is a very serious item to farmers, and upon the prairies, where timber is scarce, is much more expensive than in the Eastern States. * * * The point to be aimed at now is cheapness and durability, and the invention above referred to seems to combine both of these requisites."

Among other papers which have also extended to this valuable Fence their kind approval, we may mention the *Southern Planter*, the *Ohio Farmer*, the *Cleveland Plain-Dealer*, the *New York Tribune*, the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Washington Organ*, the *Stockton Tribune*, the *North Western Christian Advocate*, the *New York Times*, and *News*, the *Lowell (Mass.) Courier*, and *Citizen*, and many other journals in all parts of the country; but we must confine ourselves to the extracts already given, without adding more, as we are preparing only a pamphlet, and not a bulky volume.

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